

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of proposals to stop the misuse of public funds by reducing the number of directorates?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

KV AGCR Delhi

2311. SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of students in Kendriya Vidyalaya, AGCR Delhi;

(b) whether the number have gone beyond the sanctioned strength;

(c) if so, the arrangements being made to deal with the problem;

(d) whether the Government propose to allocate additional finance keeping in view the strength of students; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) The total number of students in Kendriya Vidyalaya, AGCR is 3325 as on 28.2.1997.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Vidyalaya is functioning in two shifts to deal with the problem.

(d) and (e) Allocation is made to the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan based on requirements and general availability of funds.

Tobacco Related Disease

2312. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated number of persons in India who consume tobacco;

(b) the amount spent by the Government annually on combating diseases caused by tobacco; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to ban the use of tobacco?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) It is estimated that nearly 14.2 crore men and 7.2 crore women use tobacco in India.

(b) No such data is available at present. However, Government have constituted an expert committee which would inter-alia study the economic cost of Tobacco use.

(c) Government do not propose a ban on the use of tobacco. However, steps are being taken to discourage consumption of Tobacco.

[English]

Indo-Mauritius Agreement

2313. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Mauritius have signed any credit agreement; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and benefits likely to be gained by India out of this agreement?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Agreement, signed on February 5, 1997, provides a credit of US \$ 3 million to the Government of Mauritius for importing from India capital goods, consultancy services and consumer durables. The credit will cover 90% of the F.O.B. value of the goods imported from India. The credit agreement is expected to promote increased exports of goods and consultancy services from India to Mauritius.

[Translation]

Repair of Damaged Bridges and Canals

2314. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the bridges on the various canals of Ajamgarh district of Uttar Pradesh have been damaged;

(b) whether the irrigation department is not repairing these bridges due to which many accident can take place at any time;

(c) whether inspite of repeated requests for repairs of the bridges of Dheckma Bazar and Jamuvanva and Mahuari Villages the same have not been carried out so far; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to repair those damaged bridges?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Indian Mission Abroad

2315. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the countries where Indian Missions do not exist at present;